

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 08698 241324Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-07 IO-13 EUR-12 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PROP
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS PLAY ON AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT SADAT, MAY 23

REF: ALEXANDRIA 390

1. CONSISTENT WITH ADVANCE BILLING REPORTED REFTTEL,
EGYPTIAN PRESS HAS MADE MAJOR PRODUCTION OF MY
MEETING OF YESTERDAY WITH SADAT IN ALEXANDRIA.
IT OBVIOUSLY DID SO ON SPECIFIC GOE INSTRUCTIONS.
AHAM AND GUMHURIYYA BOTH HEADLINE MEETING WITH
PICTURES AND COMMENTARIES. ENGLISH AND FRENCH
PAPERS GIVE MEETING SIMILAR PROMINENCE. THRUST OF
UPBEAT ARTICLES WAS MY DELIVERY OF HIGHLY ENCOURAGING
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER.

2. AFTER THE MEETING, FAHMY TOLD PRESS THAT FOLLOWING
WERE PRINCIPAL POINTS IN MESSAGE:
(A) CONTINUED USG COMMITMENT TO SEARCH FOR ME PEACE;
(B) CONFIRMATION THAT GENEVA SHOULD BE CONVENED THIS
YEAR REGARDLESS OF ISRAELI ELECTIONS; (C) US
ANALYSIS OF SECRETARY'S TALKS WITH GROMYKO; (D) DETAILED
EXAMINATION OF US/EGYPTIAN RELATIONS AND (E) AFRICAN
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SITUATION IN VIEW VP MONDALE'S TOUR. FAHMY ALSO
CLAIMED SECRETARY WILL REVISIT ME IN EARLY JULY.
ACCORDING PRESS, TRIPARTITE RIYADH SUMMIT DISCUSSED
DURING MEETING.

3. SOME OF THE ABOVE POINTS ARE CERTAINLY TRUE,
OTHERS ARE NOT. WE DID NOT DISCUSS VP MONDALE'S

TOUR OF THE CONTINENT, ALTHOUGH AS REPORTED ELSEWHERE
VARIOUS SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED. NOR WAS ANYTHING
SAID BY EITHER PARTY ABOUT THE SECRETARY REVISITING
THE AREA IN EARLY JULY. NOR WAS THE TRIPARTITE
RIYADH SUMMIT DISCUSSED.

4. GOE IS OBVIOUSLY USING THE MEETING TO TRY TO
COUNTERACT PUBLIC MISGIVINGS GENERATED BY BEGIN
ELECTORAL VICTORY IN ISRAEL. THERE IS CONCERN HERE
THAT WITH BEGIN AS LIKELY PRIME MINISTER, ME PEACE
PROCESS WILL BOG DOWN FURTHER. THROUGH THIS KIND
OF PRESS PLAY, GOE IS SEEKING HEARTEN EGYPTIAN AND
ARAB PUBLIC THAT NOTHING HAS CHANGED. IT IS ALSO
USING PUBLICITY DEVICE TO PROJECT CLOSE AND CONTINUING
CONTACTS BETWEEN PRESIDENTS CARTER AND SADAT.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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